

Maximilian Frayman- RG-50.407.0128

Maximillian Frayman was born 17 August 1925 in Krakow, Poland. He discusses his family and early life in Poland. He had an older sister, Helen, and an older brother (unnamed) who were four and three years older than him, respectively. His father was a factory manager. They lived in a neighborhood with few Jews in Krakow. He recalls his first exposure to Nazism in the 1930s. His sister attended Jewish commercial college and worked for the Chamber of Industry and Commerce in Wroclaw/Breslau in the late 1930s.

He discusses his experience at the war. After returning from a vacation in August 1939, his father wanted to send his family east, but they remained in Krakow. His father's factory was liquidated. He recalls a time in Winter 1940 where he was not wearing his yellow armband, and a school friend of his almost exposed him. In April 1940, his family was forcibly relocated to Radom by order of Governor General Hans Frank. His family moved back to Krakow at the end of 1940. He recalls his forced labor experiences in Krakow. His family was relocated in mid-1941 to the Ghetto. He worked as an electrician in the ghetto. He was reassigned to work in a brush factory. He was sent to work in an arms factory in 1942. He recalls the selections and mass deportations in 1942. He and many were taken to Plaszow labor camp outside of Krakow. He recalls the liquidation of the ghetto in 1943, including the mass murder at the hospital where his sister worked as a nurse. His family survived and was sent to Plaszow together. In May 1944, his brother-in-law confronted Dr. Leon Gross, a Jewish doctor collaborating with the Nazis, and was killed shortly after. In October 1944, his family was sent to Gross-Rosen camp. His family was placed on the "Schindler List." In early 1945, they were sent to Brunnlitz Camp. However, his brother did not want to be separated from his family, who was not on the list, and gave up his number and remained in Plaszow, but died in Buchenwald. Brunnlitz was liberated in May 1945. His mother died of Typhus in April 1945. His father survived the war.

After the war, Maximillian testified against Dr. Gross. He moved to London and later moved to Australia.